

Sponsored by the SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement



Columbia, SC

**GLPM Celebrates
15 Years!**

Pride Pageant:
Who will be crowned?

**Why Marriage?
Why Now?**

Pride Film Festival

Debby Holiday, recording
artist & music producer,
will perform at the
SC Pride 2005.

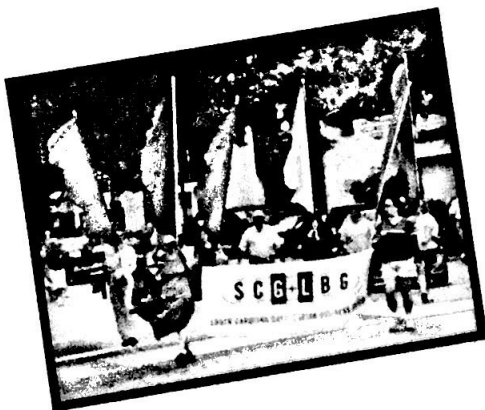
PLUS+
Pride Schedule of Events





The Guild

we are your community



The South Carolina Gay + Lesbian Business Guild
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803-771-0411

Tune In To The Guild!

A LETTER FROM MAYOR BOB



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 2005

Greetings!

On behalf of the City of Columbia and my fellow City Council members, I am pleased to welcome you to the South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement's Pride Parade and Festival. Columbia has again been chosen as the host city for this annual event, which brings attention to the issues of equality faced by the gay community.

The events surrounding this weeklong celebration will make an impact across the entire state of South Carolina by raising awareness and visibility for gay and lesbian civil rights. Although the numerous events are designed to be fun, I hope you will take to heart the central message of the parade to become active and involved in your community, building on the success of last year's South Carolina Pride activities.

We trust you will enjoy spending time in our city over the next few days, participating in the many events that have been planned in conjunction with the Pride Parade, including the guest speakers, banquet and celebration in Finlay park. May your time in our city be productive, peaceful, pleasurable and safe. The City of Columbia extends our best wishes for a positive and enjoyable Parade and Festival.

Very yours truly,


Robert D. Coble
Mayor

ROBERT D. COBLE, MAYOR

1737 MAIN STREET • P. O. BOX 147 • COLUMBIA, S.C. 29217 • PHONE: (803) 848-3078 • FAX: (803) 733-0833

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SCGLPM

Friends,

When GLPM decided several months ago that this year's theme would be "Creating a New Reality," I thought, *perfect*. Much of what has happened over the past couple of years — the overturning of sodomy laws, the legalization of marriage in Massachusetts, the growth of gay and lesbian youth organizations — has enabled us to imagine a new reality, an America that lives up to the promise of its founding.

For two years in a row, five GLPM couples stood in line at the Richland County Courthouse to apply for marriage licenses. It was an act of bravery, an act of resistance — but more than anything else an act of the imagination. Imagining a world in which our relationships and our families are treated like everyone else's.

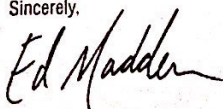
Of course, marriage work isn't all we do. GLPM and the Center host support groups for youth, people living with HIV, and others. We offer free HIV testing. We brought in national leaders last year to discuss the ex-gay ministry movement as well as marriage equality. We made hundreds of professional referrals when people called the Center in need. We registered voters. We produced the first ever voter guide for the state's gay and lesbian community. In everything we do, GLPM is working to create a different kind of South Carolina.

The fundamental way to create a new reality — and the one thing each of us can do — is to come out. When we come out, we create a new reality: we imagine and put into practice a world in which we can be honest with ourselves and others, love whom we will, and live with integrity. A world in which we are simply who we are: gays and lesbians, yes, but also neighbors, family members, coworkers, friends.

Oscar Wilde once wrote, "A map of the world that does not include Utopia is not worth even glancing at." The reality we map out in time and space *must* include our hopes for a better future.

It's going to be a tough year next year. We will have to work harder and give more than we have ever worked and given before. We will have to work together as a community. But as we do, let's keep the joy and love and community of Pride alive—not as a memory, not as a day in the park, but as a promise of what might be.

Sincerely,



Ed Madden
President, SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement

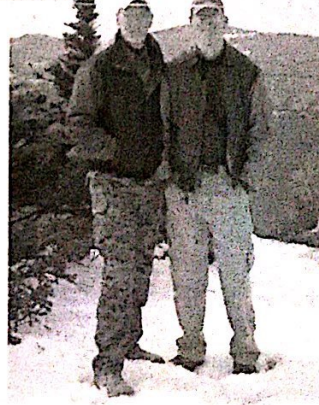
The mission of SCGLPM and the Harriet Hancock Center

Our mission is to celebrate the richness and diversity of gay and lesbian lives, to support the gay and lesbian community, to educate the larger community on gay and lesbian issues, and to advocate for equality and inclusion in all areas of life.



SPRING
OR
SUMMER

FALL
OR
WINTER



**Pride in yourself
and who you are
knows no season!**

**Happy Pride
from**

BUZZ & JIM

The South Carolina Ballot Battle Has Begun

by Ed Madden
President, SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement

A constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage and civil unions is now headed from the South Carolina Senate to the ballot for the general election in Nov. 2006. We're 17 months out, and the battle over marriage in South Carolina has already begun. And we as a community need to think seriously about what we are going to do.

It's an uphill battle: we need over 636,000 votes to win. Our community lacks the funding and the organization our opponents have. We are not out, we are not organized and we are neither as generous nor as courageous as we are going to have to be to fight this battle.

But we can't opt out. We can't explain to future generations of gay and lesbian youth that we didn't have the energy or the courage to fight this fight.

Short-term, it's going to be very difficult. Long-term, we know we are going to win. The demographics, the polls and the long arc of justice all tell us that it's only a matter of time.

We have to remember four things.

1 Our Constitution is supposed to protect people, not hurt people. A constitution is made to protect basic rights. It is not a place to decide religious and personal disagreements. While we have a history of including bigotry and petty moralism in the South Carolina constitution (think miscegenation laws and minibottles), the constitution should not be used as a weapon to attack fellow citizens.

2 Marriage seems like a simple issue, but it's not. Marriage is a legal contract tied to over

1000 rights and responsibilities. Gay and lesbian families have access to few of these rights, and the access we have is partial, piecemeal and private. And while it seems simple, the language of the amendment is sweeping and could have unintended destructive consequences.

3 We are talking about real families and real needs. While our opposition talks about unrealistic and fictional families that don't even match the reality of straight lives, we are talking about real families, real children, and real needs. Over 15,000 South Carolinians registered as same-sex partners on the 2000 census. Almost 30 percent of the male couples and almost 40 percent of the female couples are raising children at home. South Carolina is fourth in the nation for the number of gay and lesbian couples raising children at home. Only when all families are secure are communities secure.

4 This is about basic fairness. We are simply seeking what all other South Carolinians already have: the freedom to protect our families and loved ones. Furthermore, we have to remind others that equality is never achieved through referendum — and the rights of families and children should not be subject to a vote.

The vote is 17 months away. What can we do now?

Do what you can now to support the organizations involved in education and advocacy on this issue. The SC Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement (SCGLPM) has been at the forefront on public education, with highly success-

ful Freedom to Marry events that received real media visibility (even coverage on National Public Radio).

The SC Equality Coalition has been coordinating legislative and lobbying work in the capitol, and SCEC will be the critical advocacy organization in the statewide ballot campaign. Other organizations, such as the Alliance for Full Acceptance in Charleston, the CSRA Rainbow Alliance in Aiken, and PFLAG in the upstate, are also doing important educational work.

Support these organizations now. Public education matters most *right now*, not next year. People need information, and time to digest that information. As Nov. 2006 approaches, attitudes — and hearts — will harden. We have to do the work of putting a real face on this issue now.

To do that, we need to come out. As Evan Wolfson, director of Freedom to Marry, said at the GLPM 15th Anniversary Banquet last month, "The information that fair-minded people need is local, concrete, and real." We need South Carolina faces, South Carolina families, South Carolina stories.

And we must get ready for the battle ahead. We will need volunteers and donors. We will need organizers. We will need out gay and lesbian people willing to walk through neighborhoods door to door (the most effective strategy for reaching voters on this issue).

And we will need to do everything we can to reach the hearts of over 636,000 South Carolinians.

[An earlier version of this appeared in Q-Notes, 23 April 2005.]

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WHY MARRIAGE? WHY NOW?

by Ed Madden and Bert Easter

Not everyone thinks marriage is the most important issue for our movement right now. It's a bad time, some say, too early, or there are more important issues, or it's been foisted on us by the national organizations (or the religious right), or I'm not in a couple so it's not my fight.

Although GLPM has been at the forefront of public education on this issue (along with the other work we do), we believe in dialogue. To that end we hosted or co-hosted five town hall meetings last year, in hopes that our community might come together and think — think hard — about what is at stake in the public discussion about marriage.

There is, after all, a very public, national discussion. And if we don't join it, it goes on without us.

A religious group sent South Carolina legislators a tract this spring that was all about how

many partners and how much unsafe sex gay men have and how much fecal matter we eat. Charming stuff. But you know, if we are not out as gay and lesbian people, defining ourselves, other people will define us.

There are other concerns, but marriage has become, right now, the issue around which our supporters and our opponents are thinking about who we are and what our place is in America. It has become the issue through which people are thinking about fundamental questions of equality.

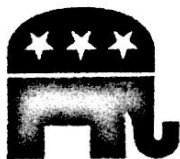
For all of us in South Carolina, because there will be an amendment on the November 2006 ballot, the name and nature of our relationships matters in a very real way. And the public education done in the name of marriage over the next 17 months will be public education that has incalculable impact on all the things that matter to us.

**"We cannot change yesterday.
We can only make the most of today,
and look with hope toward tomorrow."**

Message written on the office chalkboard, Richland County Probate Judge's Office, 9 February 2005.
They were expecting the arrival of GLPM couples attempting to register for marriage licenses.

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Photojournalist Penny Coleman offers us a photography show of "Village Elders" portraits in black-and-white photographs and in words of older adults in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities.

"The collection of faces and oral histories I have gathered form a collage of exquisite and intimate details of what it was like 'back then' and how it is today for those who lived through the social revolutions of the 20th century," Coleman says. "The largely uncharted history that emerges constitutes a sort of family album."

"You can't know your gay future without knowing your gay past and VILLAGE ELDERS brings to light our underexposed gay history in a loving and absorbing gay photo documentary of Greenwich Village's senior statesmen and stateswomen."
—The Advocate

Please plan to join us for this photography opening at the Harriet Hancock Center during our open house:

Friday, May 20 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

1108 Woodrow Street

www.SCGLPM.org

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PROFILES

Featured Guests



DEBBY HOLIDAY

Rock/Soul Diva

Recording artist and music producer Debby Holiday has been called "an underground sensation," "a compelling soul singer and a dynamite live performer." Holiday, who appears at SC Pride 2005 courtesy of T-Best Talent, has worked with a wide range of today's top songwriters, as well as sharing the stage with legendary recording artists like John Waite and Rod Stewart, and she opened on tour for Joe Walsh and Kiss. She recently appeared on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and *The David Letterman Show*. Rock/soul diva

Debby Holiday has released her third independent LP *Half A Mile Away* on her own Nebula 9 label. A mix of rock, soul, and pop, this LP also includes the original version of "Dive," Holiday's hot dance club hit, which was released in advance of the album in maxi-single remixes by Chris Cox (Thunderpuss), Scotty K. (*The Ellen Degeneres Show*) and Scott Anderson of Solar City (Erin Hamilton, Pepper Mashay). More information on Debby Holiday is available on her website at www.debbyholiday.com.



RACHAEL SAGE

Singer-Songwriter

Rachael Sage, who performed at SC Pride 2004, is truly a renaissance performer, whose music was described by *Paste Magazine* as "wildly expressive...moody, edgy folk." A prize-winning songwriter, Sage has toured with Ani DiFranco, Melissa Ferrick, and she played the Lilith Fair with Sarah McLachlan, Sheryl Crow, and Suzanne Vega. In September of 2004, Sage released *Ballads & Burlesque*, her sixth album released on her own MPress Records. Her appearance at Pride is part of her Burlesque national album tour.

Sage has been compared to such artists as Rufus Wainwright for her gorgeous piano-driven melodies and Sarah McLachlan for her feminist-folk sensibilities. In the last 8 years, Sage has earned media accolades for her songwriting talents, including Grand Prize in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest. She is a founding member of the NYC artist collective UrbanMuse, as well as WomanRock and Indiegrl, and she is a resident composer for the American Jewish Ballet. For more information, see www.rachaelsage.com.

continued on page 12



CAROLINA BEAR LODGE

UPCOMING EVENTS



TUBIN' ON THE GREEN

DIP YOUR FEET IN THE RIVER AND GET A LITTLE WILD!



BEAR TRAP XI

RIVER BOAT GAMBLIN' - CAROLINA BEAR LODGE STYLE!



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CHARLOTTE, NC



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PROFILES



WAYNE BESEN

Author and Activist

Wayne Besen is the author of *Anything But Straight: Unmasking the Scandals and Lies Behind the Ex-Gay Myth*. Besen also publishes a regular column, "Anything But Straight," in which he offers wickedly incisive commentary on contemporary politics. He made national news when he photographed "ex-gay" poster boy John Paulk cruising a gay bar in Washington, DC (the photo appears on the cover of his book!). Besen is a former spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian advocacy

group. He has appeared as a guest on leading news and political talk shows including: the NBC Nightly News, The Roseanne Show, CNN's *Talk Back Live* and *The Point*, Fox's *O'Reilly Factor* and *Hannity and Colmes*, *Hard Copy*, *MSNBC News* and PAX's *Faith Under Fire*. Besen last appeared in Columbia in the spring of 2004, when GLPM invited him to speak on USC campus about the history and politics of ex-gay movement. For more information: www.waynebesen.com.



DR. WILL MOREAU GOINS

Native American Activist and Performer

A storyteller, author, performer, Native American activist, and historic preservationist from South Carolina, Dr. Will Moreau Goins will offer the invocation opening this year's Pride festival. Goins is a spokesperson for Native American communities throughout the Carolinas and Georgia, and he is the CEO for the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina. Goins is also a national spokesperson for Two-Spirit people—Two-Spirit the

Native-American term that historically refers to GLBT peoples but encompasses alternative sexuality, alternative gender, and an integration of Native spirituality. Goins is the editor of *The People Speak: A Collection of Writings by South Carolina Native Americans in Poetry, Prose, Essays, and Interviews*. As a performer, Goins uses poetry, legend, chant, movement, and drums to tell the story of indigenous peoples. He has performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Lincoln Center, and the Ty Llen Cultural Center in Wales, as well as at arts festivals in Australia and Ireland. His work on Two-Spirit insights can be found on the Native American section of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) website, at: www.glaad.org/poc/native.

continued on page 14

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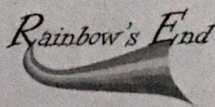
SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Charlotte Pride
Charlotte NC Black Gay Pride
Club Fusion (Columbia)
InterPride
Marlboro Station (Aiken)
Mr. SC Pride 2004, Lars Goodnight,
Ms. SC Pride 2004, Kiki Merlot
Nickelodeon Theatre
Pat Patterson
Patrick's (Charleston)
PFLAG - Columbia
Pride Coordinators Don Hair and
Radar Williams
PT's Cabaret (Columbia)
PT's 1109 (Columbia)
John Roberts
SC Gay and Lesbian Business Guild
Time Out (Myrtle Beach)
USC BGLSA

And **VERY SPECIAL THANKS** to the
many dedicated volunteers and generous
donors who make SC Pride possible, and
all those in the community who support
the work of SCGLPM and the Center!



WACHOVIA



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THANK YOU TO PT'S CABARET!

Host of Pride Idol 2005 and the Colors of Pride Yellow Party.



Thank you to Tony and all the cast and crew
at PT's Cabaret and PT's 1109 for supporting
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Join us for these special Pride events
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- Carolina Bear Lodge Party
6:30-8:30 pm at PT's 1109
- Pride After-Party - 6pm, PT's Cabaret

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SC Pride 2005 FILM FESTIVAL

May 19-23, 2005

Sponsored by SCGLPM
and the Columbia Film Society

May 19-22,
Nickelodeon Theatre (937 Main)
May 23, USC campus (place TBA)

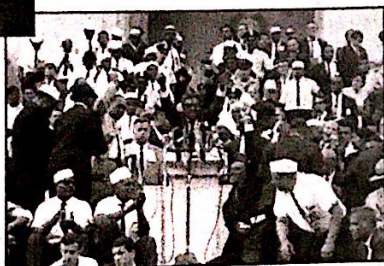


Bayard Rustin outside the March on Washington office
Associated Press

BROTHER OUTSIDER

The story of Bayard Rustin, the gay black man who transformed the Civil Rights Movement.

"the unknown hero of the civil rights movement."
- Andrew Sullivan in Time magazine



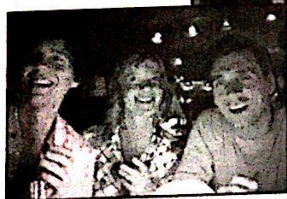
Bayard Rustin speaking at the March on Washington, August 28, 1963.
UPI/Corbis-Bettmann

Thursday, May 19 • 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. • Discussion to follow 7:00 screening
Nickelodeon Theatre • Sponsored by the SC Equality Coalition and Palmetto Umoja.

WALK ON WATER

"a substantial meditation on contemporary politics, sexual and otherwise." - New York Times

May 20-22
Friday, May 20 - 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 21 - 3:00, 6:00 and 8:00
Sunday, May 22 - 3:00, 7:00 and 9:00
Nickelodeon Theatre
Sponsored by SCGLPM.



BEAR CUB SPECIAL PRIDE LATE SHOW!

Parenthood is about to get a little hairier.

"a wise and sweet-natured Spanish film"
- New York Times

Friday and Saturday, May 20-21
May 20-21, 10:15 p.m.
Nickelodeon Theatre
Sponsored by SCGLPM and the Carolina Bear Lodge.

Community Film Forum: Documentaries

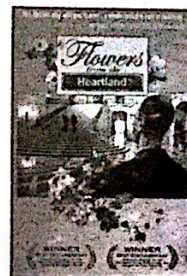
FLOWERS FROM THE HEARTLAND

An email becomes a national movement.

WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS

by Charleston filmmakers Mark McKinney and Steve Lepre
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"leftist propaganda" - Rep. John Graham Altman (R-Charleston)



GAY PIONEERS

The story of the first organized annual 'homosexual' civil rights demonstrations held in Philadelphia, New York and Washington, DC from 1965-69.

Monday, May 23, 7:00 p.m. Williams Brice Auditorium (Nursing 231), USC campus. Corner of Greene and Pickens St. A special screening of short / documentary films. Parking in the campus lot on Greene Street.

Nickelodeon Theatre
of the COLUMBIA FILM SOCIETY



For more information: 803.771.7713 or SC Pride Center@aol.com.
www.nickelodeon.org • www.scglpm.org

ANYTHING BUT STRAIGHT: UNMASKING THE SCANDALS AND LIES BEHIND THE EX-GAY MYTH

by Wayne Besen

Anything But Straight is a one-of-a-kind book that uncovers exclusive information and offers tantalizing new revelations about "reparative therapy" and the "ex-gay" ministries. An in-depth, well-researched and historically significant account, *Anything But Straight* is full of startling facts and alarming surprises.

"If there is anyone left in America who believes sexual orientation is a matter of choice, he or she should read this book."

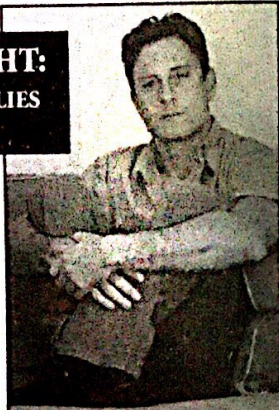
— Andrew Tobias, author

"With courage born from his own experiences as a gay man, Wayne Besen splays open the underbelly of the 'ex-gay' ministries and SHEDS LIGHT ON ONE OF THE MOST INSIDIOUS MOVEMENTS OF THE RADICAL RIGHT. America needs to pay attention to what Besen has exposed in this astonishing revelation."

— Donna Red Wing, gay activist

"In *Anything But Straight*, Besen does a masterful job of making both gays and ex-gays alike contemplate ways to re-examine all our assumptions, re-state all our conclusions, and in the process extricate ourselves and our issues from the hijackers who are using gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people to frighten and divide the nation and control the churches."

— Mel White, author of *Stranger at the Gate* and founder of SoulForce



**"If you are gay,
now is the time
to waltz into
your walk-in
closet and
make a choice.
You can dust
off your boxing
gloves and
prepare to fight
for your rights,
or you can stay
silent and
redecorate
your closet,
because this
is the lonely,
miserable
space you may
inhabit in the
near future."**

Wayne Besen
Anything But Straight

www.waynebesen.com

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**"We need, in every
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angelic troublemakers."**

— Baynard Rustin —

SAVE THE DATES!



Pride Picnic

Saturday, June 4, 2005
CSRA Rainbow Alliance
10-2 Riverview Park,
North Augusta



"Take Me Out"

preview performance
Trustus Theatre
Thursday, June 23
Hancock Center fundraiser
For tickets email
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PRIDE 2006!

Saturday,
May 20, 2006



OUT2MART

Support and Education Group for GLBT Youth

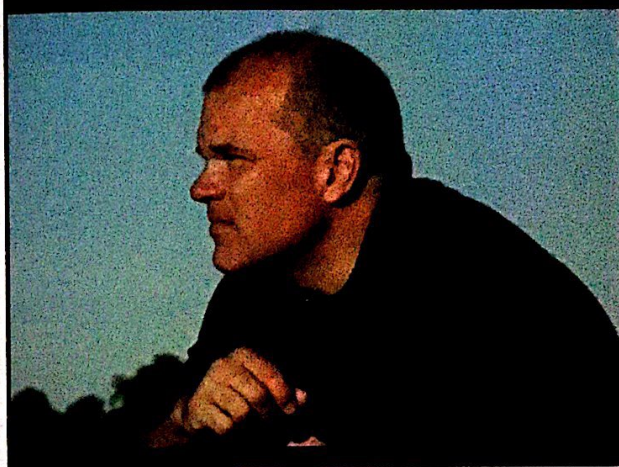
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